

# Learning English with CBC Calgary

## Weekly newscast

June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2014

**Lessons prepared by Amie Sondheim & Justine Light**

### Objectives of the weekly newscast lesson

- to develop listening skills at the CLB 4 level
- to increase vocabulary among learners
- to increase knowledge of news stories
- to provide a self-study tool, as well as, an ESL classroom resource



[www.alberta.ca](http://www.alberta.ca)



<http://www.cbc.ca/calgary/learning-english/>

## **News story #1 Lottery Scam**

Do you play the lottery? Have you ever won any money playing the lottery? This first story is about a couple that has been charged with stealing money from lottery players.

Before you listen to the first news story, complete this vocabulary activity. It will help you to understand the listening more easily.

### **Vocabulary**

Use the vocabulary below to fill in the blanks. *Answers in Appendix*

Word	Definition
charge (v)	to say that someone is legally guilty of a crime
connection (n)	attachment; relation
lottery (noun)	buying tickets to try and win money or a prize
scam (n)	a clever, dishonest way to trick people into giving you money
prize (n)	something valuable you can win for being successful
investigator (n)	someone who looks into things, especially crimes
data (n)	information
escape (v)	to get away from being trapped, or chased

#### **Extra definitions to help you understand the reading:**

**second story balcony** – an outside structure that is attached to a building on the second floor

1. I've been a victim of a \_\_\_\_\_ ... I can't believe how much money I lost.
2. It is difficult to \_\_\_\_\_ from jail.
3. The thieves have been caught and \_\_\_\_\_ for stealing all those cars.
4. You should look at the \_\_\_\_\_ carefully to decide how much money has been taken.
5. What is the \_\_\_\_\_ between the lottery and the stolen credit card information?
6. If she's lucky, she will win a \_\_\_\_\_.
7. You should get a \_\_\_\_\_ ticket, if you want to win!
8. The \_\_\_\_\_ is investigating the crime.

Now listen to the first news story from the audio file.

### **Listening Activity: True/False**

Decide whether the statements below are **true (T)** or **false (F)**. *Answers are in the appendix.*

1. \_\_\_\_\_ People from all over Canada have been tricked in this lottery scam.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Victims received e-mails telling them they won prizes.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ In order to get the money they had “won”, victims had to send money.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Nothing important was found in the apartment search.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ The man and woman jumped off a balcony to try to get away.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ This is the first time the boxer has been charged with this kind of crime.

**Discussion:** How can you protect yourself from scams like the one in this story? What other kinds of scams are out there and what should people do to avoid them?

## News story #2 Legal Housing

What types of things do you think the government looks for when deciding if a house is legal to live in, or not? This second story is about secondary suites becoming legal in Calgary.

Before you listen to the second news story, complete this vocabulary activity. It will help you to understand the listening more easily.

### Vocabulary:

Match the words with their definitions. *Answers are in the appendix.*

Answer	Words or phrases	Definition
1.	civic	a) a place to live or stay
2.	secondary	b) all over the city
3.	suite	c) to make legal
4.	legal	d) related to a town or city
5.	city-wide	e) discuss formally when trying to make a decision
6.	legalize	f) not the main one, the one less important
7.	debate	g) allowed by law

### Extra definitions to help you understand the reading:

**'see the light'** – to understand the truth

**low vacancy rate** – not many open places for people to stay/live; every place is full

**secondary suite** – an extra suite that is near or part of a primary residence – e.g. basement suite

### Listening activity: Multiple Choice

Choose the best answer to complete sentences. *Answers are in the appendix.*

1. The mayor of Calgary says that there	a) might be a vote on secondary suites. b) will be a vote on secondary suites.
2. The mayor will try to find a way	a) to legalize the suites province-wide. b) to legalize the suites city-wide.
3. Nenshi hopes the council will 'see the light' and	a) make the suites legal. b) make the suites illegal.
4. Nenshi thinks there are	a) 13.5 thousand illegal suites in the city b) 35 thousand illegal suites in the city
5. Legalizing the suites will do two things:	a) make them unsafe and empty b) make them more safe and fuller
6. City council will discuss the problem	a) next fall b) next winter

**Discussion:** First, retell this news story in your own words. Next, answer these questions: What is the problem? How does Calgary Mayor Naheed Nenshi feel about the situation? What "light" do you think Nenshi wants city council to see about the secondary suites?

### **News story #3 Decorating the LRT**

How important do you think art is to a city's culture? This story is about public art and the LRT.

Before you listen to the third news story, complete this vocabulary activity. It will help you to understand the listening more easily.

#### **Vocabulary**

Choose the group of synonyms (words with similar meaning) that best match each of the vocabulary words. *Answers are in the appendix.*

<b>Answer</b>	<b>Words in the story</b>	<b>Related words</b>
	delay	a) base framework
	get on	b) problem wait
	infrastructure	c) secure establish
	transit	d) first initial
	ensure	e) to keep going moving forward
	original	e) seminar information session
	workshop	h) travel transportation

**Extra definitions to help you understand the reading:**

**lion statues** – stone lion statues that used to mark the Centre Street bridge in Calgary

Now listen to the third news story from the audio file.

#### **Listening Activity: Matching**

Match the columns according to how the subject affects the object. *Answers are in the appendix.*

<b>Subject of statement</b>	<b>Matching letter (a,b,c,d,e)</b>	<b>Object of statement</b>
1. The city is getting on with		a) over 3 million dollars for artwork.
2. The transit line doesn't have		b) a workshop will be held to discuss art.
3. City council decided to use		c) the lion statues will be part of the plan.
4. City council said		d) any public art.
5. Sarah Iley says		e) finding art for the LRT.

**Discussion:** What roles has art played over the course of history? What does art tell us about a place and a time? Why do people create art?

## Language Focus: “To”

### The word “to” is used for these reasons:

#### **1. Indicates the person, place, or thing that someone or something is moving towards:**

e.g. I am going to the park. The jet is flying to Japan. We went to the store. Come to me.

#### **2. Shows a relationship:**

e.g. You need a resume to get a job. Listen to this song.

#### **3. To indicate an ending point:**

e.g. I'll save up to a thousand dollars a month. Stack the books up to the top.

#### **4. To show a time period of time:**

e.g. I have school from Monday to Friday. It's ten to seven (6:50 p.m.).

#### **5. As part of the infinitive verb (to + verb)**

Now, look at the uses of “to” from the stories and decide which use goes with the examples:

Statement from Stories with “to”	Write the #
1. You're listening <b>to</b> Learning English with CBC for the week of June 13 <sup>th</sup> .	
2. A Calgary man and woman are now charged in connection <b>to</b> a nation-wide lottery scam.	
3. Police say two people jumped from a second story balcony <b>to</b> try <b>to</b> escape.	
4. City council decided <b>to</b> take more than three million dollars from other transportation projects <b>to</b> ensure the line gets some public art.	
6. The city's manager of culture, Sarah Iley, says a workshop will be held this Saturday <b>to</b> ask Calgarians what they want <b>to</b> see.	

Write your own sentences for each of the five uses:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

## Transcripts of Weekly news stories

	JUNE 13 <sup>TH</sup> WEEKLY NEWS STORIES	TIME
<b>Introduction</b>	Hi, I'm Rosa Marchitelli . You're listening to Learning English with CBC for the week of June 13 <sup>th</sup> .	0:00
<b>Story 1</b>	A Calgary man and woman are now charged in connection to a nation-wide lottery scam. Victims would get letters in the mail telling them they'd won the lottery. But to pick up their prize they had to give a large sum of money. Investigators searched a southwest Calgary apartment and found credit card data, mailing lists and computers. Police say two people jumped from a second story balcony to try to escape. 34-year-old Albert Onolunose and 25-year-old Abeba Gima face a number of charges. This isn't Onolunose's first problem with the law. The professional boxer was charged in 2010 with similar offences.	0:13
<b>Story 2</b>	Calgary's mayor says there could be a vote at the next civic election on secondary suites. But he'll keep trying to find for a quicker solution to see the suites become legal city-wide. Naheed Nenshi says he's hoping council will -- as he puts it -- "see the light" -- and legalize the suites. He thinks that there are 35-thousand illegal secondary suites in the city. Nenshi says legalizing them will help make them safer -- adding the city needs the housing because of the low vacancy rate. City council will next debate the issue in September.	1:11
<b>Story 3</b>	After some delays, the city is getting on with the job of including public art into its biggest-ever infrastructure project: the West LRT. The transit line opened late in 2012... but without any public art. City council decided to take more than three million dollars from other transportation projects to ensure the line gets some public art. Council also said that the original lion statues from the Centre Street bridge will be part of the art plan. The city's manager of culture, Sarah Iley (EYE-lee), says a workshop will be held this Saturday to ask Calgarians what they want to see.	1:56

## Answer keys

### News story 1

#### Vocabulary:

1. I've been a victim of a **scam** ... I can't believe how much money I lost.
2. It is difficult to **escape** from jail.
3. The thieves have been caught and **charged** for stealing all those cars.
4. You should look at the **data** carefully to decide how much money has been taken.
5. What is the **connection** between the lottery and the stolen credit card information?
6. If she's lucky, she will win a **prize**.
7. You should get a **lottery** ticket, if you want to win!
8. The **investigator** is investigating the crime.

#### Listening:

1. T People from all over Canada have been tricked in this lottery scam.
2. F Victims received e-mails telling them they won prizes.
3. T In order to get the money they had "won", victims had to send money.
4. F Nothing important was found in the apartment search.
5. T The man and woman jumped off a balcony to try to get away.
6. F This is the first time the boxer has been charged with this kind of crime.

### News story 2

#### Vocabulary:

Answer	Words or phrases	Definition
d	1. civic	a) a place to live or stay
f	2. secondary	b) all over the city
a	3. suite	c) to make legal
g	4. legal	d) related to a town or city
b	5. city-wide	e) discuss formally when trying to make a decision
c	6. legalize	f) not the main one, the one less important
e	7. debate	g) allowed by law

#### Listening:

1. The mayor of Calgary says that there	a) <b>might be a vote on secondary suites.</b> b) will be a vote on secondary suites.
2. The mayor will try to find a way	a) to legalize the suites province-wide. <b>b) to legalize the suites city-wide.</b>
3. Nenshi hopes the council will	<b>a) make the suites legal.</b>

'see the light' and	b) make the suites illegal.
4. Nenshi thinks there are	a) 13.5 thousand illegal suites in the city <b>b) 35 thousand illegal suites in the city</b>
5. Legalizing the suites will do two things:	a) make them unsafe and empty <b>b) make them more safe and fuller</b>
6. City council will discuss the problem	<b>a) next fall</b> b) next winter

### News story 3

#### Vocabulary:

Answer	Words in the story	Related words
<b>b</b>	delay	a) base framework
<b>e</b>	get on	b) problem wait
<b>a</b>	infrastructure	c) secure establish
<b>g</b>	transit	d) first initial
<b>c</b>	ensure	e) to keep going moving forward
<b>d</b>	original	f) seminar information session
<b>f</b>	workshop	g) travel transportation

#### Listening:

Subject of statement	Matching letter (a,b,c,d,e)	Object of statement
1. The city is getting on with	<b>e</b>	a) over 3 million dollars for artwork.
2. The transit line doesn't have	<b>d</b>	b) a workshop will be held to discuss art.
3. City council decided to use	<b>a</b>	c) the lion statues will be part of the plan.
4. City council said	<b>c</b>	d) any public art.
5. Sarah Iley says	<b>b</b>	e) finding art for the LRT.

**Language focus:**

<b>Statement from Stories with “to”</b>	<b>Use:</b>
1. You’re listening <b>to</b> Learning English with CBC for the week of June 13 <sup>th</sup> .	<b>2</b>
2. A Calgary man and woman are now charged in connection <b>to</b> a nation-wide lottery scam.	<b>2</b>
3. Police say two people jumped from a second story balcony <b>to</b> try <b>to</b> escape.	<b>2</b> <b>1</b>
4. City council decided <b>to</b> take more than three million dollars from other transportation projects <b>to</b> ensure the line gets some public art.	<b>5</b> <b>5</b>
6. The city's manager of culture, Sarah Iley, says a workshop will be held this Saturday <b>to</b> ask Calgarians what they want <b>to</b> see.	<b>5</b> <b>5</b>